XII LEGAL ASPECTS OF LATENT PRINT	Page 1 of 2
IDENTIFICATION Division of Forensic Science	Amendment Designator:
LATENT FINGERPRINTS TRAINING MANUAL	Effective Date: 16-January-2004

XII LEGAL ASPECTS OF LATENT PRINT IDENTIFICATION

12.1 PURPOSE

- 12.1.1 To acquaint the student with the reasons why demonstrative exhibits are often beneficial during expert testimony to latent print or other impression identifications, and to acquaint the student with a variety of methods for preparing such visual aids.
- 12.1.2 To acquaint the student with the legal aspects of forensic identification as it pertains to fingerprint impressions. Further, to familiarize the student with significant court cases involving latent print impression identifications.
- 12.1.3 To familiarize the student with significant reports of efforts to falsify latent print evidence and the means by which this has been attempted to aid the student examiner in developing a constant awareness of the detection of these efforts.

12.2 OBJECTIVES

- 12.2.1 The student will attain:
 - An understanding and knowledge of the legal aspects for recording the fingerprints of an individual and the collection of fingerprint evidence.
 - A familiarization with the nature of proof, and the reasons for the lack of specific requirements for the number of matching ridge characteristics necessary to effect an identification (of a fingerprint).
 - Familiarization with precedent setting legal cases involving latent print impression identification.
 - The ability to construct a court chart demonstrating a latent fingerprint impression identification; and a familiarization with both traditional and untraditional methods of demonstrating such a chart.
 - Familiarization with proper courtroom demeanor, method of delivery of presentation while demonstrating any court charts, and demeanor during stress provoking situations on the witness stand.

12.3 GOAL

12.3.1 Upon completion of this training segment the student will possess knowledge and understanding enabling him to effectively present expert testimony about latent print examinations.

12.4 DISCUSSION

- 12.4.1 Subject matter in this segment addresses three major areas:
 - 1. The general parts of effective latent print testimony which are legally and logically required.
 - 2. The technical and theoretical pitfalls which beset Latent Print Examiners attacked by well coached attorneys.
 - 3. The basic human aspects of presenting testimony in a manner that sounds believable and knowledgeable.

XII LEGAL ASPECTS OF LATENT PRINT	Page 2 of 2
IDENTIFICATION	Page 2 of 2
Division of Forensic Science	Amendment Designator:
LATENT FINGERPRINTS TRAINING MANUAL	Effective Date: 16-January-2004

12.5 EXAMINATION

12.5.1 Successful completion of this segment of training will be determined by acceptable performance in a mock court situation as evaluated by the Supervisor of the Latent Print Section, with recommendations and critique from a panel appointed by same.

12.6 REFERENCES FOR TOPIC XII

- 1. Fingerprints and the Law, Moenssens, Chapter 3 through 10 and Appendix 1.
- 2. An Introduction to Criminalistics, O'Hara and Osterberg, Chapters 45 and 46.
- 3. The Science of Fingerprints, Chapter 17.
- 4. Practical Fingerprinting, Bridges, Chapters 18 and 19.
- 5. <u>Advances in Fingerprint Technology</u>, Lee, Chapter 10.
- 6. Fingerprint Handbook, Fields, Chapter 14.
- 7. The Expert Witness, FBI Pamphlet.
- 8. Crime Scene Search and Physical Evidence Handbook, Fox and Cunningham, Chapter 2.
- 9. Scott's Fingerprint Mechanics, Olsen, Chapter 10.
- 10. Fundamentals of Criminal Investigation, O'Hara and O'Hara, Chapters 27 and 28.
- 11. Friction Ridge Skin, Cowger, Chapter 9.
- 12. Footwear Evidence, Abbott, Chapter 1.
- 13. Footwear Identification, Cassidy, Chapter 10.
- 14. The Evidence Handbook, Donigan.
- 15. Topic XII Latent Print Section Reference Articles File.